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FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

To: Commissioner for Patents
Examiner Thanh T. nguyen

Firm: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Art Unit 2144

Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

From: William S. Frommer

Date: December 21, 2007

Re: FLH Ref No.: 450100-03634
Serial No: 09/996,019

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**PATENT
DEC 21 2007 450101-03634**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Satoru Maeda, et al. Notice of Allowance
 Dated: 09/26/2007

Serial No. : 09/996,019

For : INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS AND RECORDING MEDIUM FOR CONTROLLING AND SIMPLIFYING A SIGN-UP OPERATION OF AN APPARATUS OVER A NETWORK (AS AMENDED)

Filed : November 28, 2001

Examiner : Nguyen, Thanh T.

Art Unit : 2144

Confirmation No. : 2691

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December 21, 2007

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed September 26, 2007. To the extent the Examiner's

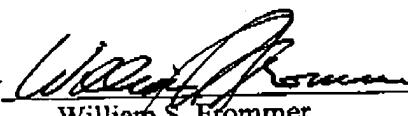
PATENT
450101-03634

Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By


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